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Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 044900

20
ORIGIN IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /011 R

DRAFTED BY IO/TRC:SFRIEDLAND
APPROVED BY IO:MMCNAULL
---------- 089592
R 272218Z FEB 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LONDON

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FOLLOWING REPEAT SECSTATE INFO COPENHAGEN
FEB 6

QUOTE

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETEL, TSPA, GR
SUBJECT: IMCO: MARITIME SATELLITES

REF: STATE A-46, 1/6/75 AND 617, 1/2/75

STATE PASS OTP, FCC, COAST GUARD, NASA, MARAD

COPENHAGEN PASS O'NEIL, AM CLUB

1. US TEAM HAD MORNING MEETING WITH GOG REPRESENTATIVES OF MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS, MINISTRY OF MERCHANT MARINE, AND HELLENIC TELECOMMUNICATIONS ORGANIZATION (OTE). FOREIGN MINISTRY INVITED TO MEETING BUT FAILED TO ATTEND.

2. AFTER US PRESENTATION OF RECOMMENDED TWO-AGREEMENT SOLUTION GREEKS MADE POINT THAT US SOLUTION WAS RAISED LATE IN GAME AND POSED SERIOUS PROBLEM REGARDING PROGRESS TO BE EXPECTED AT LONDON. ALTHOUGH GOG HAS NOT YET FINAL DECISION ON POSITIONS
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PAGE 02 STATE 044900

RE THE SEVERAL ASPECTS OF POE DRAFT CONVENTION, THEY WOULD

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006

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PREFER TO WORK WITH ONE DRAFT AT LONDON. NONETHELESS THE GREEK REPRESENTATIVES WILL STUDY US PROPOSAL CAREFULLY AND THEN MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO MINISTER OF MERCHANT MARINE AND MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS, (LATTER WILL NEED MAKE FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION). GOG REPS INDICATE THAT THE PM WILL PROBABLY HAVE TO MAKE FINAL DECISION.

3. GREEKS EXPLORED CAREFULLY RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN USG AND DESIGNATED ENTITY IN INMARSAT, ASKING PARTICULARLY WHAT WOULD BE USG POSITION SHOULD INMARSAT ORGANIZATION REQUIRE ADDITIONAL CAPITAL CONTRIBUTION AND US DESIGNATED ENTITY RELUCTANT TO DO SO. US TEAM MADE CLEAR THAT USG CAN NOT GUARANTEE FINANCIALLY BUT THAT THERE WOULD BE CLOSE USG CONSULTATION WITH DESIGNATED ENTITY. WHILE APPEARING TO UNDERSTAND USG RELATIONSHIP WITH DESIGNATED ENTITY THEY DID EXPRESS SOME CONCERN AS TO HOW RELATIONSHIP MIGHT OPERATE IN SOME OTHER COUNTRIES WHICH THEY DID NOT NAME.

4. ON OTHER SUBJECTS, GREEKS SHOWED SOME FLEXIBILITY ON PROCUREMENT POLICY, SUPPORT OF ACCESS TO SHIPS OF ALL NATIONS AS WELL AS EQUAL CHARGES FOR MEMBERS AND NON-MEMBERS. GREEKS ALSO AGREED ON PRINCIPLE THAT SHIPS OWNERS AND OPERATORS MUST HAVE MECHANISM FOR REGULAR INPUT OF VIEWS TO INMARSAT ON ADVISORY BASIS, BUT THAT DETAILS COULD BE WORKED OUT AT CONFERENCE. THEY ALSO SAID THAT THEY DID NOT HAVE A COMPLETE SURVEY OF GREEK SHIP OWNER ATTITUDES TOWARD MARITIME SATELLITE SYSTEM BUT RESPONSE SO FAR IS OF GENERAL INTEREST. GOG POLICY NOW IS THAT SHIP OWNERS BUY OWN COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT AND POLICY WOULD PROBABLY REMAIN UNCHANGED WITH SHIP TERMINALS, UNLESS THEY SO EXPENSIVE THAT GOG LOAN TO OWNER MIGHT BE NECESSARY. THEY ARE INTERESTED IN SYSTEMS HAVING DISTRESS AND NAVIGATIONAL CAPABILITY PROVIDED ADDITION THESE CAPABILITIES DOES NOT SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASE SYSTEM COST. THEY BELIEVE INMARSAT'S PRIMARY CUSTOMERS ARE SHIPS OF AT LEAST 10,000 GRT.
KUBISCH UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COMMUNICATION SATELLITES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE044900
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: SFRIEDLAND
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750072-0593
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975026/aaaaaert.tel
Line Count: 96
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE A-46, 75 1/6/75, 75 AND 617, 75 1/2/75
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 MAY 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <19 MAY 2003 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: IMCO: MARITIME SATELLITES
TAGS: ETEL, TSPA, GR
To: LONDON
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006